

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A) (12)

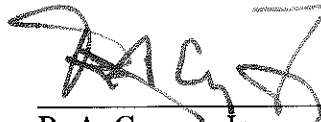
TO: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: March 18, 2014

FROM: R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution supporting SB 1282,
HB 1117, or similar legislation
that would combat bullying,
racial harassment, and other
forms of abusive conduct in
athletics and promote a culture
of civility and respect among
high school, college and
professional athletes

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan.



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/jls




MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: March 18, 2014

FROM: 
R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A) (12)

Please note any items checked.

- ☐ "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- ☐ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- ☐ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- ☐ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- ☐ Budget required
- ☐ Statement of fiscal impact required
- ☒ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- ☐ No committee review
- ☐ Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____) to approve
- ☐ Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(12)
3-18-14

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SB 1282, HB 1117, OR SIMILAR
LEGISLATION THAT WOULD COMBAT BULLYING,
RACIAL HARASSMENT, AND OTHER FORMS OF ABUSIVE
CONDUCT IN ATHLETICS AND PROMOTE A CULTURE OF
CIVILITY AND RESPECT AMONG HIGH SCHOOL,
COLLEGE AND PROFESSIONAL ATHLETES

WHEREAS, participation in organized interscholastic athletics is a central part of the
education of students in preparation for adulthood; and

WHEREAS, organized athletic events outside the context of scholastic competition also
play an important role in the development of children and adolescents; and

WHEREAS, the physical and emotional well-being of student athletes is threatened by
abusive conduct by other student athletes; and

WHEREAS, bullying and racial harassment are prevalent and under-reported forms of
abusive conduct in youth community settings, including athletics; and

WHEREAS, abusive conduct, including bullying and racial harassment, in college and
professional athletics is detrimental to participants in those settings; and

WHEREAS, organized athletics at the college and professional levels offer role models
and object lessons to younger athletes, and abusive conduct, including bullying and racial
harassment, which takes place at those levels can negatively influence the behavior of children
and adolescents; and

WHEREAS, intervention to promote respectful conduct during athletes' formative years
reduces the incidence of such detrimental behavior when they mature into adulthood; and

WHEREAS, intervention to promote respectful conduct in athletics at the college and professional levels will reinforce and more effectively communicate the anti-bullying and anti-harassment policies of this state, and prevent the serious harms that can result from such conduct when engaged in by adults; and

WHEREAS, companion Senate and House bills entitled the Safe Athletics Education and Training Act of 2014 have been filed for consideration during the 2014 session of the Florida Legislature, SB 1282 by Senator Oscar Braynon (D–Miami Gardens), and HB 1117 by Representative Ritch Workman (R–Melbourne); and

WHEREAS, the Safe Athletics Education and Training Act of 2014 would:

- (1) require the Florida High School Athletic Association to adopt bylaws regarding the promotion of respectful conduct in interscholastic athletics;
- (2) prohibit bullying or harassment in intercollegiate athletic events;
- (3) require training and reporting in schools and require that athletic participants sign an anti-bullying pledge;
- (4) require professional sports franchises to take reasonable measures to prevent abusive conduct; and

WHEREAS, the Miami Dolphins, through owner Stephen Ross, helped introduce and have expressed their support for the Safe Athletics Education and Training Act of 2014; and

WHEREAS, this Board would like to express its support for the enactment of SB 1282, HB 1117, or similar legislation that would combat bullying, racial harassment, and other forms of abusive conduct in athletics and promote a culture of civility and respect among high school, college and professional athletes,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board:

Section 1. Supports the enactment of SB 1282, HB 1117, or similar legislation that would combat bullying, racial harassment, and other forms of abusive conduct in athletics and promote a culture of civility and respect among high school, college and professional athletes.

Section 2. Urges the Florida Legislature to enact SB 1282, HB 1117, or similar legislation.

Section 3. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, Senator Oscar Braynon, Representative Ritch Workman, and the Chair and Remaining Members of the Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation.

Section 4. Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate the passage of the legislation identified in Sections 1 and 2 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2014 state legislative package previously approved by the Board to include this item.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan. It was offered by Commissioner _____, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Rebeca Sosa, Chairwoman
Lynda Bell, Vice Chair

Bruno A. Barreiro
Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Sally A. Heyman
Jean Monestime
Sen. Javier D. Souto
Juan C. Zapata

Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.
Audrey M. Edmonson
Barbara J. Jordan
Dennis C. Moss
Xavier L. Suarez

✓

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 18th day of March, 2014. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

MSM

Michael J. Mastrucci